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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/738,992	12/19/2000	Ercan E. Kuruoglu	D/A0841	2663

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02/23/2004

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EXAMINER

SAIN, GAUTAM

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2176

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/738,992

Applicant(s)

KURUOGLU ET AL.

Examiner

Gautam Sain

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1) The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1-1) Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carleton et al (US Patent 5781727, issued Jul 1998) in view of Tran (US Patent 6054994, filed Jul 1996).

In regard to independent claim 1, 11 and 12, Carleton teaches a plurality of workstations comprising a computer processor, a display (ie., computers linked together displaying)(col 1, line 65 – col 2, line 5). Carleton does not expressly teach, but Tran teaches a capture device for capturing a digital image of a document (ie., text or graphical illustration, camera , electronic notepad; digital)(co 2, lines 59-63; col 7, lines 46 - 60).

Carleton teaches a base computer communicating with the plurality of workstation (ie., a single computer runs an application and displays on other computers)(col 1, line 65 – col 2, line 5).

Carleton does not express teach but Tran teaches identify handwritten annotations in images of documents captured at each workstation (ie., handwritten recognition software for entry/display of pen-based computer as an electronic notepad) (col 7, lines 55-65).

Carleton teaches communicate the data representing the identified annotation images to each workstation to permit an annotation entered at a first workstation to be distributed to other workstations for display (col 1, line s65 – col 2, line 6; Abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Carleton to include digital/graphical electronic files and handwritten annotations as taught by Tran, providing the benefit of creating and attaching text or graphical illustrations to a message, file, data set including photographic annotations depicting circumstances leading up the photograph/graphical image (Tran, col 2, lines 59-67).

In regard to dependent claim 3, 14, Carleton does not teach, but Tran teaches capture device at least one workstation comprises a camera (ie., digital camera)(Abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Carleton to include a camera as taught by Tran, providing the benefit of annotations to graphical messages, files (Tran, col 2, lines 59-65).

In regard to dependent claim 4, 15, Carleton teaches “information representing the annotation as a bitmap” (ie., annotations need bitmap)(col 10, line 9 –11).

Carleton teaches “information indicating the location of the annotation in a document” (ie., annotation logic draws corresponding annotation at the remote computer as from the original computer)(col 7, lines 28-38).

In regard to dependent claim 5, 16, Carleton teaches “information representing the origin of the annotation” (ie., owners of the different cursors are identified by color, shape of a label ...)(col 5, lines 1-3).

In regard to dependent claim 6, 17, Carleton does not teach, but Tran teaches “information representing at least one of a time and date associated with the annotation” (ie., real-time clock)(col 7, line 4).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Carleton to include a time function as taught by Tran, providing the benefit of enhance tracking of history of annotations (col 7, lines 5-15).

In regard to dependent claim 8, Carleton teaches “where at least one of the workstations is operative to display annotations in a plurality of different colors, the colors being indicative of the origin of the annotation” (ie., multiple owner of a cursor is identified by the color, shape, ...)(col 5, lines 1-3).

In regard to dependent claim 9, Carleton teaches “each workstation is operative to identify handwritten annotations” (col 1, lines 65 – col 2, line 5).

In regard to dependent claim 10, Carleton does not specifically teach, but Tran teaches “the base computer is operative to identify handwritten annotations” (col 7, lines 46 – 65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Carleton to include a base computer that accepts handwritten input as taught by Tran, providing the benefit of attaching graphical illustrations with annotations as an option for users.

In regard to dependent claim 19, Carleton teaches “annotations originating from at least two different other workstations”(ie., three mouses, three cursors, three arrows)(col 4, lines 60-67).

In regard to dependent claim 20, Carleton teaches “annotation is displayed in a color indicative of the origin of the annotation” (col 5, lines 1-3).

1-2) Claims 2, 7, 13, 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carleton (as cited above) in view of Tran (as cited above), further in view of Levine et al (US Patent 5680636, issued Oct 1997).

In regard to dependent claim 2, 13, Carleton teaches system is operative to identify a new annotation made at a workstation (col 1, lines 65 – col 2, lines 6).

Carleton in view of Tran does not teach, but Levine teaches update the distribution of annotations to the workstations (ie., updated stamp updated to include recently made visual annotations)(col 13, lines 10– 15).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Carleton in view of Tran to include updating annotation information at the workstations as taught by Levine, providing the benefit of making computer devices more initially “user friendly” or readily useable especially to first-time and computer illiterate users, friendlier than the menu driven devices (col 1, lines lines 45-55) and allowing all remote users to have the most recent information.

In regard to dependent claim 7, 18, Carleton in view of Tran does not teach, but Levine teaches “information representing the identity of the document with which the

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annotation is associated" (ie., files per annotation are catalogued in a table of contents file referred to as a superfile... associated with a particular document)(col 7, lines 1-7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Carleton in view of Tran to include a catalog of annotations as taught by Levine, providing the benefit of having a friendlier computer device (col 1, lines 50-55) and a means to access the documents that contain annotations.

Conclusion

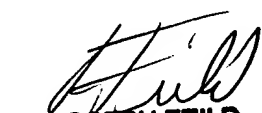
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gautam Sain whose telephone number is 703-305-8777. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild can be reached on (703)305-9792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



GS



JOSEPH FEILD
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